



HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Saving Lives and Protecting Property

DATE: 5.16.2005

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HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES NATIONAL EMS WEEK May 15 to May 21, 2005

City of Houston EMS Director Dr. David E. Persse and Houston Fire Chief Phil Boriskie announce today the celebration of National EMS Week May 15 to May 21, 2005. The week brings together healthcare agencies and medical personnel to honor the dedication of the individuals who provide day-to-day lifesaving services.

Dr. Persse said, "Houston firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics are trained and certified emergency caregivers who respond to people in need with compassion and give the best emergency medical service possible. These highly trained individuals treat patients from the emergency scene, in route to hospitals and trauma centers, to the release of patients to the facility's medical staff. These caregivers are often the initial and frequently the life-determining component of the emergency care system for victims of sudden and serious illness and injury."



HFD Paramedic Stephen Scott will be reunited May 17 with the baby girl he helped deliver

HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT EMS WEEK AGENDA

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2005

1:30 p.m.

Mayor White and City Council will present an EMS Week Proclamation to Dr. Persse and HFD EMS at City Hall. Dr. Persse will hold a reunion with HFD firefighters and paramedics and a mother and father and their daughter, born February 10, 2005. HFD paramedics delivered the baby by breech birth. The baby was not breathing initially. The baby is doing fine now, and the family is looking forward to expressing their gratitude to the HFD individuals who helped save their baby. Dr. Persse will present commendations to the HFD crewmembers. Chief Boriskie is scheduled to attend.

6:45 p.m.

Celebrate HFD EMS Night with the Houston Astros and Medilife of Houston when the Astros take on the Arizona Diamondbacks. Dr. Persse and Chief Boriskie will host an Astros Pre-Game Ceremony in honor of EMS Week. Dr. Persse will hold a reunion with cardiac arrest survivor Edward Smith. Smith will thank HFD crewmembers and bystanders who helped him survive his September 2004 cardiac arrest. HFD members and members of local fire departments and EMS services in the audience will be asked to stand for a round of applause. HFD will also salute the selfless bystanders that performed CPR on individuals that were often complete strangers.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2005**7:00 a.m. until as long as supplies last**

Ben Taub General Hospital will provide an array of light refreshments throughout the day beginning at 7:00 a.m. to EMS providers in honor of their dedication to the citizens of Houston. For more information contact Ben Taub Trauma Outcome Manager Robin Garza 713-873-3445.

6:30 p.m.

The Greater Houston EMS Council will hold its annual EMS Award Banquet at Brady's Landing Restaurant. Paramedic of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Awards will be presented to members of Houston EMS agencies including HFD. Dr. Persse, Fire Chief Boriskie, and Chief Gill are scheduled to attend. Brady's Landing is located at 8505 Cypress St, Houston, TX 77012, phone (713) 928-9921.

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2005**4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

The BlueCross BlueShield Care Van will give free vaccinations to children, birth to 18 years, at HFD Station 18, 619 Telephone Road @ Lockwood Houston, TX 77023;

<http://www.houstontx.gov/fire/firestations/station18.html>

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The John P. McGovern Museum of Health & Medical Science honors HFD EMS in this celebration of EMS Week. The community is invited to tour the museum, view HFD emergency equipment, and meet firefighters and paramedics. Free admission. The Museum is located at 1515 Hermann Drive, Houston, Texas 77004-7126, Phone (713) 942-7054, <http://www.mhms.org/>.

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